

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

The invention relates to mobile communication systems using wireless network cells inside a vehicle, such as an aircraft, other airborne vessel, ship or train while aboard, and using satellite communications between the cells inside the vehicle and the terrestrial communication system. According to the invention there is an emulator functionality provided at both ends of the satellite communication link. The emulator is capable of providing required state signalling without a connection between the base station and the base station controller, and therefore the satellite communication link can be switched to off state when it is not needed for transferring calls or other information. The invention also provides a possibility to use alternative satellite connections depending on the location of the vehicle.

An emulator functionality is provided at both ends of a satellite communication link that is used between wireless network cells inside a vehicle, such as an aircraft, and a terrestrial communication system. The emulator is capable of providing required state signalling without a connection between a base station of the wireless network inside the vehicle and a base station controller of the terrestrial communication system. In accordance with an exemplary embodiment of the invention the satellite communication link can be switched to an off-state when it is not needed for transferring calls or other information. A further non-limiting exemplary embodiment of the invention provides for a use of alternative satellite connections depending on the location of the vehicle is provided.